

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 9, 2006

**Senate Joint Resolution**

**No. 21**

**Introduced by Senator Machado**

*(Coauthors: Senators Bowen, Chesbro, Kuehl, and Romero)*

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bermudez, Jones, Koretz, and Pavley)*

February 6, 2006

Senate Joint Resolution No. 21—Relative to sudden child cardiac arrhythmia syndrome.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 21, as amended, Machado. Sudden child cardiac arrhythmia syndrome.

This measure would memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to take necessary action to ~~amend~~ *enact HR 1252, thus amending* the Public Health Service Act to provide for a program of screenings and education regarding children with sudden cardiac arrhythmia syndromes.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Teague Ryan was a five-year old boy who died of  
2 long Q-T syndrome, a genetic heart problem that caused the  
3 electrical rhythm of the heart to malfunction. It usually occurs in  
4 children or young adults; and

5 WHEREAS, Each month in the United States between 250 and  
6 600 children die suddenly and unexpectedly from cardiac  
7 arrhythmia syndromes. These syndromes include long Q-T  
8 syndrome, arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, hypertrophic  
9 cardiomyopathy, and other conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, Long Q-T syndrome is more common in the  
2 United States than childhood leukemia; and

3 WHEREAS, Most cardiac arrhythmia syndromes are  
4 identifiable through screenings. Once diagnosed, these  
5 syndromes are treatable and individuals can lead a normal life.  
6 Currently, children are not automatically screened for any cardiac  
7 arrhythmia syndromes; and

8 WHEREAS, ~~The~~ *Under the proposal currently included in*  
9 *House Resolution 1252, the Secretary of the federal Department*  
10 *of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the*  
11 *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,* ~~is~~ *would be*  
12 *authorized to make awards of grants to states, and other public or*  
13 *nonprofit private entities, such as the Cardiac Arrhythmias*  
14 *Research and Education Foundation, the Sudden Arrhythmia*  
15 *Death Syndromes Foundation, and the Hypertrophic*  
16 *Cardiomyopathy Association; and*

17 WHEREAS, These federal grants ~~would~~ *could* be used to  
18 screen children under 19 years of age for sudden arrhythmic  
19 syndromes, provide referrals for medical services regarding these  
20 syndromes, and provide education to health professions and the  
21 public, including education on screening methods; and

22 WHEREAS, The Secretary ~~is~~ *would be* required to give  
23 priority in making awards to children who participate in  
24 organized sports; and

25 WHEREAS, The Secretary ~~is~~ *would be* authorized to provide  
26 technical assistance to grantees regarding the planning,  
27 development, and operation of programs. This technical  
28 assistance ~~may~~ *could* be made directly or through grants. The  
29 Secretary ~~is~~ *would be* required to provide for evaluations of  
30 programs in order to determine the effectiveness and quality of  
31 the programs; and

32 WHEREAS, ~~The~~ *Under House Resolution 1252, the federal*  
33 *government has appropriated* ~~would appropriate~~ the amount of  
34 \$20,000,000 for the fiscal year 2006, and such sums as may be  
35 necessary for each of the fiscal years 2007 through 2010; now,  
36 therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
38 *California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California*  
39 *respectfully memorializes the President and Congress of the*  
40 *United States to take necessary action to* ~~amend~~ *enact House*

1 *Resolution 1252, thus amending* the Public Health Service Act to  
2 provide for a program of screenings and education regarding  
3 children with sudden cardiac arrhythmia syndromes; and be it  
4 further

5 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
6 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
7 States, to the Speaker of the United States House of  
8 Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the United States  
9 Senate, to the Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations,  
10 and to each Senator and Representative from California in the  
11 Congress of the United States.

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